



PATENT APPLICATION

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Wehler et al.

Docket No.: 10016.527

Date: April 17, 2008

Application No.: 10/582,371

Filed: February 27, 2007

Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: J. Pape

For: SLIDING DOOR SYSTEM FOR A VEHICLE, IN PARTICULAR A MOTOR VEHICLE

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE,

Commissioner for Patents,

P.O. Box 1450,

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On April 17, 2008

Signature: Jeffrey W. Smith

Jeffrey W. Smith, Reg. No. 33455

Name of Applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants request that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered because it has been filed within the following time period:

37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

_____ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);

_____ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;

_____ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits;

x Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114;

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37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(d)

_____ Before the mailing of any of a final action under §1.113;

_____ Before a notice of allowance under §1.311;

_____ An action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application; or

_____ Filed on or before payment of the issue fee

And is accompanied by a:

Statement specified in §1.97(e):

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ The fee set forth in §1.17(p).

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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants call the attention of the Examiner to the following documents:

United States Patents

<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
5,581,944	Kornbrekke et al.	12-10-1996
5,906,071	Buchanan, Jr.	05-25-1999
6,036,259	Hertel et al.	03-14-2000
6,174,020	Knettle et al.	01-16-2001
6,286,740	Hayashida	09-11-2001
US 2002/0136471	Hermey et al.	09-26-2002
6,550,232	Achs et al.	04-22-2003

Foreign Patent Documents

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Patentee</u>
WO 99/54640	10-28-1999	Blase
WO 00/12913	03-09-2000	Achs et al.
DE 198 32 044 A1	01-21-1999	Hayashida
DE 297 06 670 U1	07-24-1997	Igus Spritzgußteile
EP 0 173 829	07-13-1985	Malkmus-Dörnemann
EP 0 846 599 B1	12-03-1997	Hertel et al.
EP 1 010 558 A2	11-03-1999	Alaniz et al.

Other Documents

English language Abstract, Translated Description and Claims of WO 99/54640, European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, 7pp.

English language Abstract, Translated Description and Claims of EP 0 173 829, European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, 5pp.

Please note that the "Translated Description and Claims" referenced above are downloaded from the European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, and are not translations obtained or certified by Applicants. The European Patent Office site indicates that the translations are made automatically by WorldLingo Translations.

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Copies of these documents are submitted herewith along with Form PTO/SB 08a and PTO/SB 08b.

Applicants respectfully requests that these documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "documents cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey W. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

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